

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin having a nitrogen content of from 0 to 3%, a viscosity of about 20 to 2000 cps, and a molar ratio of formaldehyde/phenol of from 1.2 to 3.0 wherein 40-100% of the solute portion of the phenol-formaldehyde resin will not spontaneously diffuse through a dialysis membrane comprised of regenerated cellulose and having a known molecular weight cut-off of 3,500 Da.

2. (original) The resin of Claim 1 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has a solids content of from about 10 to 70%.

3. (original) The resin of Claim 2 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has a pH of from about 7 to 14.

4. (original) The resin of Claim 1 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has an alkalinity of from about 4 to 15.

5. (original) A low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin having a nitrogen content of from 0 to 1%, a viscosity of about 50 to 300 cps, and a molar ratio of formaldehyde/phenol of from 1.2 to 2.0.

6. (original) The resin of Claim 5 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has a solids content of from about 40 to 60%.

7. (original) The resin of Claim 5 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has a pH of from about 9 to 12.

8. (original) The resin of Claim 5 wherein the low-nitrogen content, high molecular weight, phenol-formaldehyde resin has an alkalinity of from about 4 to 15.